

The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 2741.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1891.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER

Banks.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
PAID-UP CAPITAL \$1,168,062.50
RESERVE FUND 5,482,127.00
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS \$1,168,062.50

COURT OF DIRECTORS:—
CHAIRMAN—H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq.
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—J. S. MOSES, Esq.
T. E. DAVIES, Esq. A. M. COMACCHIE, Esq.
W. H. FORBES, Esq. S. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.
H. HOPPIUS, Esq. L. FORSWELLER, Esq.
Hon. J. J. KESWICK. D. R. SASSOON, Esq.

ACTING CHIEF MANAGER—
HONGKONG—F. DE BOVIS, Esq.
MANAGER,
SHANGHAI—JOHN WALTER, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNT at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the full balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS—
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.
For 6 months, 4 per cent. per annum.
For 12 months, 5 per cent. per annum.

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED—
CREDITS granted on approved Securities, and every description of BANKING and EXCHANGE business transacted.

DRAFTS granted on London, and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

F. DE BOVIS,
Acting Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1891.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE BUSINESS of the above BANK will be conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on WEEK-DAYS, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. SATURDAYS, 10 to 1. 250 LESS THAN \$1; or MORE THAN \$250 at one time will not be received. No Depositor may deposit more than \$2,500 in any one year.

DEPOSITORS in the SAVINGS BANK, having \$100, or more, at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

INTEREST AT the rate of 3 1/4 per annum will be allowed to Depositors on their full balances.

EACH DEPOSITOR will be supplied gratis with a PASS-BOOK, which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their PASS-BOOKS, but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.

CORRESPONDENCE as to the Business of the Bank, if marked ON HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK BUSINESS, will be forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

WITHDRAWALS may be made demand, but the personal attendance of the Depositor or his duly appointed Agent, and the production of his PASS-BOOK, are necessary.

FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

F. DE BOVIS,
Acting Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1891.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £2,000,000.
PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000.

LONDON: Head Office, 40, Threadneedle Street, West End Office, 25, Cockspur Street.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives MONEY ON DEPOSIT, Buys and Sells BILLS OF EXCHANGE, ISSUES LETTERS OF CREDIT, forwards BILLS for COLLECTION, and Transacts Banking and Agency business generally, on terms to be had on application.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSIT: Fixed for 12 months, 5 per cent. per annum.

" " 6 " 4 " "

" " 3 " 3 " "

ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS: 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

E. W. RUTTER,
Manager.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL £5,000,000.

PAID UP CAPITAL 2,500,000.

RESERVE FUND 1,250,000.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Hon. J. J. KESWICK, Chairman.

Hon. C. P. CHATER, Managing Directors.

Vice-Chairman.

LEE SING, Esq.

S. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.

J. S. MOSIES, Esq.

G. E. NOBLE, Esq.

POON FONG, Esq.

D. R. SASSOON, Esq.

BANKERS,

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

MONEY advanced on Mortgage, on Land and Buildings.

Properties purchased and sold.

Estate Managed and all kinds of Agency and Commission business relating to Land, etc., conducted.

Full particulars can be obtained at the Company's Office, No. 5, Queen's Road Central.

A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.

Victoria Buildings,
Hongkong, 23rd May, 1886.

Intimations.

W. POWELL & CO.

EX S.S. "PALINURUS."

SPECIALITIES IN

BALL COSTUME MATERIALS.

GILT & SILVER TRIMMINGS FOR FANCY COSTUMES.

W. POWELL & CO.

Hongkong, 3rd January, 1891.

APOLLINARIS.

THE QUEEN OF TABLE WATERS.

The filling at the Apollinaris Spring amounted to—

12,720,000 Bottles in 1888.

15,820,000 Bottles in 1889.

17,670,000 Bottles in 1890.

CALDBECK MACGREGOR & CO., SOLE AGENTS FOR HONGKONG & CHINA.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

THE INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY of Mr. NISSIM DAVID EZEKIEL in our Firm ceased on the 23rd December, 1890.

EZEKIEL & JOSEPH,

Hongkong, 31st December, 1890.

With reference to the above the Under-signed will carry on the business under the style of JOSEPH & LEVY and liquidate all outstanding accounts of the above Firm.

F. H. JOSEPH,

S. E. LEVY,

Hongkong, 31st December, 1890.

NOTICE.

M. ERNST RICHARD FUHRMANN has this day been admitted a Partner in our Firm.

REUTER BROCKELMANN & CO.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1891.

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THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH, TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1891.

Intimations.

**DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA,
L I M I T E D,**
DISPENSING CHEMISTS, &c.

PURE WINES.

We beg to invite careful attention to the following selection from our WINE LIST, for we have succeeded in combining purity and excellence of quality with moderate prices.

SHERRY.

	per case bottle
VINO GENEROSO—a generous round wine, green seal	\$1.00 \$0.60
VINO DE PASTO—medium dry wine with delicate flavour, red seal	\$1.00 \$1.00
AMONTILLADO—a high class natural wine for connoisseurs of Sherry, yellow seal	\$1.00 \$1.10
DELICIOSO—the very finest sherry procurable, 6 years in bottle	\$1.00 \$1.25
PORT.	\$1.00
Superior quality	\$1.00
Invalid Port, gold seal	\$1.00 \$1.00
Old Tawny, soft and mature, black seal	\$1.00 \$1.25
Specially selected old vintage	\$1.00 \$1.75
BURGUNDY.	\$1.00
BEAUNE—a full-bodied Red Burgundy with strengthening properties	\$1.00 \$1.25
CHARLIS—a mellow White Burgundy, five flavours and bouquet	\$1.00 \$1.25
CHAMPAGNE.	\$1.00
AVIZE—a well-matured, specially selected dry wine	\$1.00 \$1.75
LEMOINE—VIN BLANC—CUVEE ROYALE As Supplied regularly to the Prince of Wales, House of Commons, and the chief clubs in London, &c.	\$1.00 \$2.00
Per case of 24 pints	\$1.00 \$1.00

We are Sole Agents in China for the Sale of this splendid Wine.

(Telephone No. 60.)

Nos. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Hongkong, 29th December, 1890.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1891.

Fiat justitia ruat cælum! An anonymous correspondent of the *China Mail* tries to make out that the commutation of the capital sentence passed at the December sessions of the wretched homicide Tsang Ali to twenty years' penal servitude is a direct encouragement to murder, and that the merciful view of the man's crime taken by the Executive is simply turning the administration of justice into a farce. These brave words from this self-appointed Censor, but they would have more effect on the public mind if the gentleman had exhibited the courage of his opinions by admitting his name to his frothy fulmination against the Government, "the huge army of useless officials," "the semi-barbarous population of the colony," etc., etc. It is so safe and so easy to indulge in wholesale vituperation against constituted authority, or against anybody and everybody, under the convenient cloak of a non *de plume* the Bravo, of the pen dares no personal risk, but, as in this particular instance runs riot behind a fence, being afraid to drop the mask and stand face to face with his convictions. We do not mean to contend that there are not many topics which can be profitably discussed in the public newspapers by anonymous correspondents—far from it indeed, but in a case of this kind, where the matter at issue is after all a mere difference of opinion on the vexed question of capital punishment, the very strong language of this individual elects to indulge in would have looked much better had it been printed over a recognisable signature. However, let us now see how this exercise of the Governor's prerogative is, as this person asserts, "encouraging murder."

We are told that commuting the sentence is a "scandalous neglect of the Hongkong Government to perform the prime duty of every Government, the execution of justice;" and a comparison is attempted to be made between this case and one that has recently created a great deal of sensation in London—the Kentish Town tragedy. The *China Mail* correspondent asserts that the details of the two murders are equally revolting; that the motive was similar; that there was certainly more excuse for the woman's jealousy than for the Chinaman's; and that both murderers were unanimously found guilty and condemned to death. "But here," shrieks our righteous advocate of the 'blood for blood' fetish, "is the similarity ended. The Home Government, in spite of the fact that the prisoner is (*sic!*) a woman, and notwithstanding the strong sentiment that exists against capital punishment in general, and more especially in the case of women in a land so highly civilised as England, rigorously carries out the sentence of the Court. The Hongkong will then have cause to celebrate its Jubilee. No doubt.

The versatile if rather inconsistent Editor of our religious contemporary rises to the occasion as usual. He says that there is a good deal of truth in "Justice's" animadversions, but thinks it would have been better if that immaculate censor and moralist, before commencing to write, had put his head in—ah, yes! in a bucket. *Et tu, Bruté?*

TELEGRAMS.

FRENCH TARIFF.

LONDON, January 10th.
The French Tariff Committee have decided to rescind all Customs Treaties on February 1st.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

H.M.S. *Severn*, Captain W. H. Hall, arrived here to-day from Shanghai.

A CRICKET MATCH, the 1st A. & S. Highlanders v. H.M.S. *Impressum* and *Mercury*, will be played to-morrow. Stumps will be drawn at 5 p.m.

Mrs. Hopkins, Dunn & Co. put the Austro-Hungarian steamer *Ashin Maru* up to auction, at Shanghai on the 8th inst. for the third time. She was knocked down to Mr. H. E. Reynell, of Kobe, her original owner, for £1.700,000.

CLARETS.

A Superior Breakfast Claret, Red Capsule	\$4.50
B Superior Old Pale, Green Capsule	\$1.00
C Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule	\$1.25
D Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled)	\$1.50
SHERRIES.	\$1.00
A Delicate Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Capsule	\$0.60
B Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capsule	\$0.75
C Manzanilla, Pale Natural Sherry, White Capsule	\$1.00
CC Superior Old Dry, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal Capsule	\$1.00
D Very Superior Old Pale Dry, choice old wine, White Seal Capsule	\$1.00
E Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very fine quality, Black Seal Capsule (Old Bottled)	\$1.50
CLARETS.	\$1.00
A Superior Breakfast Claret, Red Capsule	\$4.50
B St. Estèphe, Red Capsule	\$5.00
C St. Julien	\$7.50
D La Rose	\$12.00
BRANDY.	\$1.00
A Hennessy's Old Pale, Red Capsule	\$1.10
B Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Capsule	\$1.25
C Very Old Liqueur Cognac, Red Capsule	\$1.50
D Hennessy's Finest Very Old Liqueur Cognac, 1878 Vintage, Red Capsule	\$2.00
SCOTCH WHISKY.	\$1.00
A Thomas's Blend, White Capsule	\$0.75
B Watson's Glenorchy Mellow Blend, Blue Capsule with Name and Trade Mark	\$0.75
C Watson's Abelson-Glenlivet, Red Capsule, with Name and Trade Mark	\$0.75
D Watson's K. H. D. Blend of the Finest Scotch Malt Whiskies, Violet Capsule	\$1.00
E Watson's Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky, Gold Capsule	\$1.10
IRISH WHISKEY.	\$1.00
A John Jameson's Old, Green Capsule	\$0.75
B John Jameson's Fine Old, Green Capsule	\$1.00
C John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capsule	\$1.10
GIN.	\$1.00
A Fine Old Tom, White Capsule	\$0.40
B Fine Unsweetened, White Capsule	\$0.40
C Fine A. V. H. Geneva	\$0.50
RUM.	\$1.00
A Fine Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule	\$1.00
B Good Leeward Island	\$1.50 per Gallon
LIQUEURS.	\$1.00
Benedictine Maraschino Curacao Herring's Cherry Cordial Chartreuse Dr. Sieger's Angostura Bitter, &c.	\$1.00

OUR SHANGHAI evening contemporary reports that since the burning of the steamer *Shanghai* native consignees for the river ports have been rushing to the local insurance offices to insure all sorts of goods. It is an ill wind that blows no good. The insurance companies' big "divs" in store next June.

THE latest club development in America is one that will excite lively comment, were it translated here. It is called the *Gatsby*, and is composed of twelve young ladies and a similar number of young gentlemen. The ladies and lads propose to meet twice a month at each other's houses during the long winter season. Capital idea. We'll all go!

ACCORDING to the *Echo de Paris* the Yacht Club de France intends challenging America for the international cup, a big 80-tonner, to be called the *Gavotte*, to be built for this purpose.

The *Echo* notices the notion, stating that France has not enough expert seamen fitted to man the yacht and to sail her in such a race.

Only one man would be fit to captain her, and he is an invalid.

THE Band of the 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders will play the following programme at the Officers' Mess this evening, commencing at 7:45 p.m.—

March. "Alouette" "Wakalak."

Salute "Love and Loy" "Miller."

Selection "Boat Song" "Van Maanen."

Selection "Folia" "Chassaigne."

This German paper are much amused at the *London Times*, and some other papers, having been hoodwinked into stating that the scarcity of Dr. Koch's lymph was due to a lack of game, and that owing to the want of guinea-pigs, other animals, even cows, are used for the production of "lymph." We have always maintained that "lymph" is gradually going down. The editor who could be grilled with the guinea-pig yarn must be a genuine journalistic frost.

QUANAO is almost entirely French. It has a population of 1,500,000 and of this number 1,200,000 are French. The French Canadian is by no means a myth.

We are informed by the agent of the Messageries Maritimes that the Company's steamer *Gaulois*, with the next French mail, left Saigon for this port at 2 a.m. to-day.

Mr. T. C. Baring, who has taken the principal part in the reconstruction of Messrs. Baring Bros. & Co., and has accepted unlimited liability in the new company, left the old firm about a year ago because of his disapproval of the Argentine venture.

THE first gymnasium or college for women in Rome is to be opened on the 1st of April, 1891.

This is in accordance with the order of the Cultus Minister Boselli. The grade and character of the new institution is to that of the technical schools, and the object is to enable young women to prepare themselves to enter the universities.

ACCORDING to latest advices from the North, the Pooh is now covered with ice, already pretty thick, and all navigation on the river is ended for the season.

Some idea of the value of dawgs in the North may be gathered from the following report of an auction sale of sporting "works" held by Mr. E. N. Steel at Shanghai last week. They were sold as follows:—No. 1, Tls. 45; No. 2, Tls. 70; No. 3, Tls. 30; No. 4, Tls. 150; No. 5, Tls. 55; No. 6, Tls. 30; No. 7, Tls. 25; No. 8, Tls. 15; No. 9, Tls. 5.

THE Customs Taotai of Wuhu has received a communication from the Shanghai Customs Taotai to the following effect:—The gentry and merchants of Shanghai, Chia-tang, and Ningpo have decided to subscribe four taels on each case of opium imported, for the famine fund, and suggest that the same arrangement should also be applied to Wuhu as that port is accessible both by land and water, etc., etc. The Wuhu Taotai has acted on the suggestion accordingly. The time is to be for one year.

THE *Japan Daily Advertiser* learnt the Canadian line thus:—A telegram from Portland of November 7th says:—"The Canadian Pacific officials here note that F. Upton of Kobe, Japan, has engaged the steamer *Parthia*, *Abyssinia*, and *Batavia*, which have been running between Vancouver and China, for the line which is to put go between Portland and China and Japan next spring." Referring to the above, the *Kobe Herald* says it had Mr. Upton's authority to contradict the statement in question.

IT is high treason at Berlin (says *Truth*) to mention the Emperor's health, and in spite of the vaunted "liberty of the press" any editor who referred to the subject unfavourably would quickly find himself hauled off to prison. The width of the paper is equal to the length of a given pipe. The paper is first run through molten asphalt, and is then rolled upon a mandrel of wood, the size of which determines the diameter of the pipe. When cool the inside of the pipe is covered with a certain kind of enamel and the outside with a composition of bituminous lacquer and sand, and it is said that a comparatively thin pipe will stand a powerful pressure.

THE subject of connecting Port Said and Cairo by railway has been frequently discussed recently, but no action has hitherto been taken, principally owing to the strong local opposition, which a proposal would arouse at Alexandria. Meanwhile, says the Cairo correspondent of the *Times*, the Suez Canal Company is quietly engaged in constructing a Deauville railway along the Canal bank between Ismailia and Port Said. This is being done without asking the consent of the Egyptian Government, but, so much as the concession includes a strip of land along both banks of the Canal, the operations are, of course, perfectly legal provided that the railway is confined to the private uses of the Canal Company.

IT is reported in the native papers of Shanghai that after the prohibition on the export of rice from Wuhu had been raised, an immense quantity was shipped to the North, but after a short time this was decreased, and the tide of export turned southward, the merchants generally loading for Canton. Statistics have it that, between 500 and 600 thousand sacks have been sent South from Wuhu, from the middle of the 10th month to the middle of the present month, and there are yet no signs of this enormous demand being diminished. The buyers are principally Cantonese merchants, who take all the Wuhu dealers can supply them with. From a reliable source we gather that this report is perfectly correct. Rice is daily arriving at Canton in large quantities from Wuhu direct.

PRESIDENT HARRISON's message, which was transmitted to Congress on the 1st ulto, contains the following with reference to China:—"Our relations with China, which have for several years occupied so important a place in our diplomatic history, have called for careful consideration and have been the subject of much correspondence. The communications of the Chinese Minister have brought into view the whole subject of our conventional relations with his country, and at the same time this Government, through its legation at Peking, sought to arrange various matters touching the interests and protection of our citizens in China. In pursuance of the concurrent resolution of October 1st, 1890, I have proposed to the Government of Mexico and Great Britain to consider a conventional regulation of the passage of Chinese laborers across our southern and northern frontiers.

OUR STRAITS exchanges report that the *Czarina* which is expected to arrive at Singapore in March by the Russian warship *Pamiat Azov*, accompanied by its brother the Grand Duke George and suite, and the Russian warships *Platina Monachos*, *Admiral Kornilov*, and the flagship *Manjou*. Prior to this, some time in January, the Russian Admiral will arrive and proceed from Singapore to Batavia, where he will meet the *Czarina*, who goes from Colombo to that port. The four ships will then proceed direct to Singapore. These ships are the cream of the Russian navy. Speaking of the *Pamiat Azov*, the *World* says—"The Russian cruiser *Pamiat Azov*, in which the *Czarina* and the Grand Duke George are about to proceed to India, China and Japan, excited the hearty admiration of all the experts who inspected her when she was lying in Plymouth Sound. She has every conceivable improvement, and all in the most admirable order." The *Pamiat Azov* was built in England and goes her eighteen knots an hour.

AT a Regular Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Northern China, held at the Masonic Hall Shanghai on Wednesday the 9th instant, Right Worshipful Brother John Irvin Miller, District Grand Master, assisted by the officers and members of the Lodge appointed and invested his officers for 1891 as follows:—

Wor. Bro. T. W. Kingmill...D.D.G.M.

R. O. Middleton...D.S.G.W.

R. M. Brown...D.J.G.W.

J. M. W. Farnham...D.G. Chaplain.

R. P. Pease...D.G. Treasurer.

J. H. Osborne...P.D.B. of G.P.

S. R. Gale...D.G. Secretary.

D. E. Sisson...D.S.G.D.</

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH, TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1891.

not he had brought forward no witness to corroborate his evidence. He would give plaintiff judgment for the amount paid into Court, and no costs would be allowed.

THE DARING ROBBERY IN THE HARBOUR.

EXCUSE FOR THE PROSECUTION.

The four ruffians who were arrested near Shau-ki-wan on the 5th inst., and charged with boarding and robbing a boat in this harbour on the 5th, were brought before Mr. Wodehouse, on remand, this morning. Mr. Dennis appeared for Mr. In-Sim—the owner of the four chests of opium which were carried off by the thieves.

In opening the case Mr. Dennis said that the owner of the chests of opium despatched his *sok*, Lai Afuk, with four chests of the drug to Shau-ki-wan on the 5th instant, in a sampan. While on the way, and when the boat was off Hungham, a boat coming from Hungham came alongside the complainant's boat, and the four prisoners jumped out, went on board the sampan, opened the five chests and took the contents out, robbed the man in charge of \$17 and then left in their boat in the direction of Hungham. The *sok* came back to Hongkong and reported the matter to the police who arrested the defendants with the opium in their possession. The *sok* identified three of the prisoners.

Lai Afuk said, on the 5th instant he was in charge of four chests of raw opium which was being taken to the Farm. He had the opium in a boat and was taking it to Shau-ki-wan. His sampan was number 1880 and Kwok Ahce was the *louwak* of the boat. After he started he got to Hungham when he saw the pirates' boat come alongside. The boat contained eight men, four of whom boarded his boat. They were armed with revolvers and cutlasses. They broke open the chests and took the opium away. After they left they went in the direction of Hungham. He had since seen the opium and recognises it by the "chop." He had not seen since the pirates. After they left he came back to Hongkong and reported the matter to Ip Sam, the owner of the opium. On the 6th he went with a constable to Shau-ki-wan and interviewed Inspector Brämmer. He there saw one parcel of opium, and the first three prisoners arrested there. Two of them boarded his boat and the first stopped in his own boat. At the time the opium was stolen a watch, two parcels of money—one of \$10 and one of \$7—and a jade stone bangle was taken by the pirates. The latter was taken from his person. The men were on board his boat about ten minutes. He started with the opium from a landing near the Harbour Master's Pier.

To his Worship—He was the only passenger on board. The crew consisted of two women and one man, all of whom pulled the boat while he (witness) steered. He steered for Shau-ki-wan via Hungham. The exact place where the pirates boarded him was a fair distance off the Hungham Dock. The robbers' boat was one of the fishing-boat class. His boat was rowed, as also was that of the robbers. The robbers' boat came from the Tungkwa direction. He was about half a mile off shore. He did not know which side they boarded him from. The robbers opened all the chests and took the opium out. The opium was in three-catty parcels. They threw the empty chests overboard. The attack was made between six and seven p.m. It was then dusk and the lamps were light on board his boat. As the robbers took hold of him he was frightened and did not notice whether they had lighted board, or not. As it was so dark, he could not say for certain if the first three prisoners were amongst the robbers. His reason for saying, previously, that they were the men who pirated his boat was because they were arrested with the opium in their possession. The opium came from the Ming Yuen shop and others. Knowing the sampanmen, he took the boat that was attacked. He had used the same sampan before. He was in the habit of steering the boat himself, when *en route* to Shau-ki-wan. He was attacked about an hour after starting. He went on to Hungham after the attack and from thence to Chin-ai-ko. He did not know whether the pirates were previously informed that he had the opium on board.

His Worship remarked, at this juncture, that the witness was giving his answers in a very unsatisfactory manner.

Continuing, he was not hurt at all.

Mr. Dennis explained that he had refrained from putting several questions to the witness as he was giving his evidence in a most unsatisfactory manner. Witness identified the pirates' boats the day after the affair. It was not a licensed boat.

At this point the case was adjourned for a week, his Worship remarking that he would grant a further remand if necessary.

THE BURNING OF THE "SHANGHAI."

DECISION OF THE COURT OF INQUIRY.

From the evidence the Court is of opinion that the cause of the fire is not clearly proved, but it is of opinion that it must have been burning or smouldering for a considerable time before it was discovered, and that it then burst out suddenly into flames and in the space of about a quarter of an hour completely destroyed the upper part of the ship.

That the master adopted the proper course by promptly braching his ship.

That partly from the steam fire connection being badly situated, and partly from the fact that no hands attempted to make use of the upper deck fire connection or the fire-bell being rung, no water was procured. That every possible effort was made by the master, officers and crew to save the passengers, having been prevented by the rapid extension of the fire from lowering the boats. That the crew had been recently exercised at fire and boat stations, but that they chiefly depended for water on the connection by a steam fire main situated in the Chinese quarters, where confusion would be expected on the alarm of fire. The Court desires to call the attention of the Board of Trade to the fact that ships carrying a large number of passengers should be provided with steam fire connections at both ends of the ship and in places easily accessible, and that the lodging of Chinese passengers in compartments intended and used for the stowage of cargo which can be easily ignited, without the interposition of partitions, is extremely dangerous.

In the opinion of the Court the attention of the Chinese authorities should be called to the inhuman conduct of the natives in the neighbourhood, whether on shore or in boats, on the occasion of the fire.

No blame being attributable to the master and officers, their certificates are handed back to them.

The expenses of the Court, fixed at \$11. 12s. 0d., are approved.

Dated at Shanghai, the 7th day of January 1891.

J. F. STUART,

Lieut. R.N. President of the Court.

G. M. H. PLATFORD,

British Vice-Consul at Shanghai.

P. HARRIS,

Master of the British steamship *Falcons*, of Greenwich.

NETHERLANDS INDIA.

The Batavia *Nauvooilid* bears that an army officer in Aceh has been arrested on a charge of supplying arms and ammunition to the Acehnese. He will be tried by Court Martial.

The Netherlands India Government, it is said, have not given up the idea of gaining over the Sultan of Aceh, and an embassy to his court with a view to opening further negotiations is under consideration.

The damage done to house property at Joana during the earthquake cannot yet be ascertained, but that to the more prominent buildings is said not to fall short of one hundred thousand guilders.

The Netherlands India Government expect to secure Chinese coolies for the tin mines in Banda next year at premiums of from thirty dollars each, but new labourers of this kind will be charged 15 guilders each for cost of passage. To admit of accurate reckoning with the coolies in wages, the Netherlands Co-sul-Governor at Singapore has been instructed at every postal opportunity to inform the Resident of Banda how the value of the dollar stands at Singapore.

A British missionary society is said, backed by the British Government, to have applied to the Dutch Government for permission to labour among tribes in Netherlands New Guinea close to the frontier line with the British portion of the island.

In Banda, financing by machinery has turned out failure after thousands upon thousands of guilders had been spent on the experiment. Fresh machinery of larger power has been ordered from Britain.

The Medical Department in Java has applied to the Government there to get through the Netherlands Consul-General at Singapore, a copy of the annual medical report on the Straits Settlements civil hospitals for the year 1888.

For expeditionary purposes in South Flores, the Government bought 222 sovereigns at 12.40 guilders each, but the troops were recalled so soon afterwards that the coins remained in the hands of the Government. They tried to get rid of them but found buyers at 12 guilders only thereby bringing in a loss of 88.80 guilders.

The Russian Grand Dukes are touring in the interior of Java.

Banda tin of late has shown so many flaws and hollows inside the slabs, that the Netherlands Trading Company has had to draw the reputation of Government to it to save the reputation of the article.—*Exchange*.

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THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH, TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1891.

Commercial.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, 837 per cent., premium, buyers.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, New Issue—\$265 per share, buyers.

Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$53 per share, buyers.

China Traders' Insurance Company—\$65 per share, buyers.

North China Insurance—Tls. 340 per share, sellers.

Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$118 per share, buyers.

Yangtze Insurance Association—Tls. 70 per share, buyers.

On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 150 per share.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$345 per share, buyers.

China Fire Insurance Company—\$88 per share, buyers.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—\$85 per cent. premium, sellers.

Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$16 per share, buyers.

China and Manilla Steam Ship Company—\$19 per share, sellers.

Hongkong Gas Company—\$135 per share, sellers.

Hongkong Hotel Company—\$175 per share, buyers.

Hongkong Hotel Co.'s \$10 per cent. Debentures—\$20.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—\$7 per cent. discount, sellers.

Douglas Steamship Company—\$47 per share, sellers.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$173 per share, buyers.

Luron Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$100 per share, buyers.

Hongkong Ice Company—\$95 per share, buyers.

Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$30 per share.

Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$10 per share, sellers.

A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—\$21 per share, sellers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—\$1 per cent. premium, sellers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—\$1 per cent. premium, buyers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886 E—\$1 per cent. premium.

Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited—\$19 per share, buyers.

The Hongkong Steam Laundry Co., Ltd.—\$25 per share, nominal.

Panlun and Sunglo Dun Samantan Mining Co.—\$24 per share, sellers.

The Raub Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$0 cents per share, sellers.

Imuris Mining Co., Ltd.—\$14 per share, sellers.

The Raimondi Gold Mining Co., Limited—\$143 per share, buyers.

Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—\$8 per share, sales and sellers.

Tengkuia Coal Mining Co.—\$35 per share, sales and buyers.

The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co., Limited—\$80 per share, sales.

The East Horner Planting Co., Limited—\$21 per share, buyers.

H. G. Brown & Co., Ltd.—\$62 per share, sellers.

The Songel Kovash Planting Co., Ltd.—\$11 per share, buyers.

Cruckshank & Co., Ltd.—\$40 per share, nominal.

The Steam Launch Co., Limited—nominal.

The Austin Arms Hotel and Building Co., Ltd.—50 per cent. dist. sellers.

The China-Borneo Co., Ltd.—\$8 per share, sellers.

The Hongkong Brick and Cement Co., Ltd.—\$18 per share, sellers.

The Green Island Cement Co.—\$20 per share, sellers.

The Hongkong Land Investment Co., Ltd.—\$90 per share, sellers.

The Hongkong Electric Light Co., Ltd.—\$75 per share, sellers.

Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited—\$22 per share, sellers.

The West Polat Buildings Co., Ltd.—\$30 per share, sellers.

The Peak Hotel and Trading Co., Ltd.—\$20 per share, sellers.

The Laksh Planting Co., Ltd.—\$35 per share, sellers.

The Lamah Planting Co., Ltd.—\$29 per share, buyers.

The Jelebu Mining and Trading Co., Ltd.—\$2 per share, sellers.

The Selama Tin Mining Co., Ltd.—\$1.50 per share, sellers.

The Shamen Hotel Co., Ltd.—nominal.

The Kowloon Land Investment Co., Ltd.—\$12 per share, sellers.

The Trust and Loan Co. of China and Japan—\$10 per share, sellers.

The Hongkong Marine, Limited—per nominal.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON—Bank, T. T. 348

Bank Bills, on demand 352

Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 358

Credits at 4 months' sight 361

Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight 364

ON PARIS—

Bank Bills, on demand 436

Credits at 4 months' sight 443

ON INDIA, T. T. 220

On Demand 220

ON SHANGHAI—

Bank, T. T. 72

Private, 30 days' sight 72

Shipping.

ARRIVALS.

SIAM, British steamer, 922, John W. Tullock, 1st Jan.—Penang 31st Dec., Singapore 3rd January, and Hallowith 11th, General—Chin Sing.

PRESTO, German steamer, 651, J. Jessen, 12th Jan.—Hollo 8th January, Sapanwood—Siemsen & Co.

SEVERN, British man-of-war, 4,670, Captain W. H. Hall, 13th January, Shanghai 10th January.

WORLDWIDE, British steamer, 1,332, H. Phillips, 13th Jan.—London, via Peiping, and Singapore 1st Jan., General—Russell & Co.

ANCHISE, British steamer, 1,787, Lapage, 15th Jan.—Shanghai 10th Jan., Ballast—Bartfeld & Swire.

FORREN, British steamer, 509, Davis, 1st Jan.—Swatow 12th Jan., General—D. Larpak & Co.

YANGTSE, French steamer, 1,912, Lartigue, 13th Jan.—Shanghai 9th January, Malla and General—Messageries Maritimes.

ELSA, German steamer, 747, M. Jebsen, 13th Jan.—Singapore 5th Jan., General—Mehchers & Co.

CHINA, German steamer, 1,007, P. Voss, 13th Jan.—Saigon 7th Jan., Rice and Paddy—Ed. Schellihus & Co.

MARIE, German steamer, 704, C. A. Hoadwad, 13th Jan.—Haiphong 11th Jan., General—A. R. Marti.

CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.

Amoy, German steamer, for Shanghai.

Diamond, British steamer, for Amoy.

Mars Berg, German bark, for Mantong.

DEPARTURES.

January 13, Formosa, British steamer, for Swatow, &c.

January 13, Velo, German steamer, for Saigon.

January 13, Doris, German str., for Swatow.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Per Fokien, str., from Swatow—Messrs. Cox, Halslop, and 53 Chinese.

Per Wordworth, str., from London, &c.—Messrs. R. Bruce and J. Craig.

Per John, str., from Shanghai for Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Bleton, Mrs. V. Porter, Mrs. Forrester, Mrs. Tavaris, children and servant; Miss McClellan, Messrs. Faga, H. Lyngby, J. Tanum, Simon Padchart and servant, J. B. de Gobaut, and Gerda. From Kobe—Mr. Marshall, and Mrs. Kamuro. From Shangai for Saigon—Ch. Quintin, For Marcelline—Messrs. Job, Carter, Ernest Winterhoff, C. Louis, Rigland, and Legeman. From Yokohama—Miss Kishida Ito, and Mr. Kramer. For Macao—Miss Charwell, Mrs. Dobmby and Huie. From Hongkong—Mr. L. Hostis.

Per Slim, str., from Penang, &c.—218 Chinese.

Per Anchises, str., from Shanghai—4 Chinese.

Per Elsa, str., from Singapore—Dr. de Vos, and 8 Chinese.

Per China, str., from Hoihow—7 Chinese.

REPORTS.

The German steamship *Elsas* reports that she left Singapore on the 5th instant. Had strong north-east monsoon.

The British steamship *Anchises* reports that she left Shanghai on the 10th instant. Had light north-north-east winds and fine weather.

The British steamship *Snow* reports that she left Penang on the 1st ultimo, Singapore on the 16th instant, and Hobson on the 11th. Had strong monsoon and thick rainy weather in Halman Straits.

The British steamship *Fokien* reports that she left Swatow on the 12th instant. Experienced light easterly winds and fine but cloudy to single island; thence northerly winds and similar weather to port.

Post Office.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE

For Straits and London—Per *Brindisi* tomorrow, the 14th instant, at 9.30 A.M.

For Straits Settlements—Per *Anchises* tomorrow, the 14th instant, at 10.30 A.M.

For Swatow—Per *Haitan* to-morrow, the 14th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

For Amoy and Manila—Per *Diamante* to-morrow, the 14th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Shanghai—Per *Amoy* to-morrow, the 14th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Straits and Bombay—Per *Talis* on Thursday, the 15th instant, at 11.00 A.M.

For Europe, &c., Australia, India, etc. Madras, and Mauritius—Per *Yangtse* on Thursday, the 15th instant, at 11.00 A.M.

For Kobe and Yokohama—Per *Wardsworth* on Thursday, the 15th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Shanghai—Per *Taisang* to-morrow, the 15th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Kobe—Per *Fookiang* on Thursday, the 15th instant, at 3.30 P.M.

For Europe, &c.—Per *Pekin* on Thursday, the 22nd instant, at 11.00 A.M.

For Yokohama and San Francisco—Per *Cima* on Thursday, the 22nd instant, at 0.30 P.M.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG

STEAMERS.

AVOCHE, British steamer, 1,055, T. Rowin, 10th January—Moj 4th January, Coals—A. G. Morris.

BRINDISH, British steamer, 2,129, E. Street, 12th Jan.—Shanghai 9th Jan., General—P. & O. S. N. Co.

BUSHMILLS, British steamer, 1,558, C. Veming, 12th Jan.—Singapore 2nd Jan., General—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

CHUSAN, German steamer, 622, W. Wendt, 6th Jan.—Honolulu 16th Dec., Ballast—McLchers & Co.

COSMOPOLIS, German str., 551, J. Schall, 12th Jan.—Haiphong 9th January, General—Wieder & Co.

DEUTEROS, German steamer, 1,197, W. Dinsse, 12th Jan.—Saigon 6th January, Rice—Siemens & Co.

DIAMANTE, British steamer, 514, G. A. Taylor, 11th Jan.—Manila 8th Jan., General—Russell & Co.

DIOMED, British steamer, 1,470, T. Bartlett, 12th Jan.—Singapore 4th Jan., General—Butterfield & Swire.

EDENDALE, British steamer, 1,566, R. Humphrey, 25th Dec.—Kutchna 20th Dec., Coal—Mitsui Bussan Kaihatsu.

FALCON, British steamer, 1,551, J. Schall, 12th Jan.—Haiphong 9th January, General—Wieder & Co.

FOOKIANG, British steamer, 991, H. W. Hogg, 3rd Jan.—Whampoa 3rd Jan., General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

HAITAN, British steamer, 1,183, S. Ashton, 6th Jan.—Swatow 5th January, General—D. Larpak & Co.

KONG BENG, British steamer, 862, J. B. Jackson, 11th Jan.—Bangkok 31st Dec., Rice and General—Yuen Fat Hong.

MIRRO, German steamer, 637, W. Petersen, 8th Jan.—Saigon 31st December, Rice—Ed. Schellihus & Co.